

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, May 26, 1999

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 26, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We learn from the book of Psalms that we should make a joyful noise to You, O God, and that we should break forth into joyous song and sing praises. With all of the suffering and pain in the world, let us begin our day by giving thanks to You, gracious God, for Your goodness and Your love to us and to all people. You lead us when we are lost; You comfort us when we are weak; You forgive us when we have missed the mark, and You show us the path of good will and peace. With gratefulness and praise we laud Your name and ask for Your blessing. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SHOWS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, an-

nounced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1183. An act to amend the Fastener Quality Act to strengthen the protection against the sale of mismarked, misrepresented, and counterfeit fasteners and eliminate unnecessary requirements, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 254. An act to reduce violent juvenile crime, promote accountability by and rehabilitation of juvenile criminals, punish and deter violent gang crime, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minute speeches on each side.

AMERICANS DESERVE ANSWERS, NOT QUESTIONS

(Mr. BURR of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell a story, an entertaining story of spies and secrets. Some may even think it sounds like a James Bond movie, but unfortunately, it is not a fictional tale.

I am, of course, referring to the Select Committee's report that was released yesterday, a report that details acts of espionage compromising our most precious military secrets. These findings frightened me months ago when I was briefed and they disgust me today.

What is the difference between a Bond movie and the Select Committee's report? In the Bond movie, the Department of Justice would have allowed wiretaps. In a Bond movie, we would have gotten the bad guy.

All the American people have gotten out of this process are questions. Why did the Department of Justice limit the investigation? Why did the Department of Justice drag their feet? Why was not the President told and, if he was, why did he not do anything? Why, why, why?

The American people, Mr. Speaker, deserve answers, not questions.

CONSUMER SAFETY WITH GUNS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we move toward Memorial Day to honor this Nation's heroes who have given their lives to save us and to give us liberty and freedom, I want to rise today to say that I am serious about our children, serious about the violence, the death, the pain, the anguish. Serious about Americans who wish that we would act in honor of our children, in honor of those who we have lost, and yes, in honor of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, is it not interesting that this little toy with its plastic eyes is regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and yes, this little fellow is likewise regulated, because we know children who do not understand the danger of putting things in their mouth have to be protected. But yet, guns, Mr. Speaker, are allowed to be in the hands of our children. There are no safety locks and, in fact, we do not understand that we must be serious about protecting our children, Mr. Speaker.

Pass the Gun Law Safety Act this week.

U.S. NUCLEAR ARSENAL COMPROMISED

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, people in the White House talk an awful lot about "the children." Well, today, our children are a lot less safe and a lot less secure because our entire nuclear arsenal has been compromised.

Communist China acquired our most sophisticated technology, some by theft but even more right through the front door. This administration has sold the Chinese communists high-speed supercomputers, sophisticated satellite launch technology, state-of-the-art machine tools and ultra sophisticated nuclear energy design technology. Communist China now sells our technology to Iran and other rogue nations, but we do nothing. The White House covers it up and even denies China has done it.

We are discovering now that in 1995 communist China had stolen the crown jewel of our nuclear arsenal and yet this administration did nothing about it. If the President is to be believed, no one even informed the Commander in Chief.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.